

fellow GIs to once again believe that they would one day return to freedom in America.

We know that Father Kapaun suffered unthinkable cruelty at the hands of his prison guards who had a special hatred for Christians. But as the many stories attest, their rage and violence did not deter Father Kapaun in the slightest.

One of his fellow prisoners wrote a letter upon returning from Korea, saying that, "with his scraggly beard and his odd-looking woolen cap made of the sleeve of an old GI sweater, pulled down over his ears, he looked like any other half-starved prisoner.

"But there was something in his voice and bearing that was different—a dignity, a composure, a serenity that radiated from him like a light. Wherever he stood was holy ground, and the spirit within him a spirit of reverence and abiding faith went out to the silent, listening men and gave them hope and courage and a sense of peace. By his very presence, somehow, he could turn a stinking, louse-ridden mud hut, for a little while, into a cathedral."

Another passage from that letter reads that, as Father Kapaun spoke, "the agony in the garden, the road to Calvary, the Crucifixion, became very real to us, who ourselves lived daily under the threat of death, and who bore our own crosses of blows, and cold, and illness, and starvation. But Christ endured, he told us, and we, too, must endure, for the day of resurrection from the tomb of the prison camp would surely come."

For generations, Father Kapaun has inspired hundreds around the world to greater faith and service through adversity. Today, I am proud that Father Kapaun has returned home to his native Kansas. He is truly an American hero of the first class.

DEMOCRATS' WASTEFUL SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. JACOBS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I urge the Democratic leadership to heed the message of Senator JOE MANCHIN and take a strategic pause on the \$4.3 trillion reconciliation bill they are attempting to pass. To spend this amount of money on top of the nearly \$6 trillion we have spent on COVID since last March is reckless to say the least. We should not forget the long-term debt crisis we are facing.

The graph beside me shows how dire this fiscal outlook is. By 2051, as is shown in this chart, the Congressional Budget Office projects our debt will reach 202 percent of the GDP. In other words, more than twice our annual output. And that does not include the \$4.3 trillion the Democrats are proposing to spend in this reconciliation package.

This will far exceed the debt levels even after World War II. As you can see in the graph, at the end of World War

II our debt fell sharply and continued falling for several decades.

Madam Speaker, this body needs to come together now, just as we did back after World War II, to get our fiscal house in order. I know no one here wants to see this projection become reality where we will have record and unsustainable debt loads for decades and decades to come.

I urge my Democratic colleagues to end their reckless spending proposals and work with us to get our fiscal house back in order. This cannot be the legacy we leave for our children and our grandchildren.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 23 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, search our hearts and examine our minds. Reach into our inmost being and call us to account for what resides therein.

Then heal us, Lord, and we will be healed. Heal us from all that has wounded our spirits or hindered us from living into our best selves.

Save us and we will be saved. Save us from the uncertainty and unrest of these days. Save us from all that distracts us from seeing You—Your hand in our lives or Your face reflected in those around us.

We ask for a word from You. Speak that we may hear. Attend to our pleas that we may be assured of Your favor. Then may Your grace plan be fulfilled in our lives.

At the end of the day, O Lord, reward us according to our faithfulness to the tasks You have laid before us. Give us not what our deeds deserve, but may we receive what Your grace provides.

In Your merciful name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CLINE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT MAJOR DAN ALTIERI

(Mr. GALLEGO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and say goodbye to my friend and my brother, Sergeant Major Dan Altieri. We served together in Iraq.

I have one minute to speak about a man who gave thousands of marines years of their life back, one minute to speak about a marine, a patriot, a brother, a legend, who loved us, unconditionally, both on the battlefield and off.

In this magic minute, I must tell you about a marine that is timeless, one who will not be forgotten by his men. He laughed with us in the good times. He mourned with us in the bad times. He was always ready to be there and say: "Hey, brother, how are you doing?" And like a father that many of us never had, he would always say: "I am proud of you."

My minute is up, my Sergeant Major is gone, but his legend will live on.

Semper fi, Sergeant Major Altieri.

REMEMBERING PRIVATE NICOLE BURNHAM

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Private Nicole Burnham. Private Burnham didn't die on the battlefield. Her life was stolen by the cruelty of her fellow soldiers and the apathy of her superiors.

There are several tragedies in Nicole's story.

The first is the horrific sexual assault she endured at the hands of her fellow soldiers.

The second is the failure of our military leadership to protect her.

The third is the amount of time it took to ensure something like this never happens again.

Nicole did everything right. She reported the incident and applied for a transfer. Instead, her superiors, who are capable of deploying soldiers into a war zone overnight, let her request languish for an unconscionable 82 days. During that time, she was harassed, ostracized, and assaulted a second time.